

**SPECIFICATION:**

Page 10, second paragraph; replace with the following new paragraph:

The strand may further be provided with means for fragmentation of the strand subsequent to ignition, allowing the body of the strand to become separated into individually burning segments. These segments, which may be, for example, approximately six inches in length, will fall and provide for the ignition of combustible materials at the ground surface if the strand is suspended by branches or other obstacles. Fragmentation means may be provided by the accelerated burning of longitudinal reinforcing elements at selectively spaced intervals along the strand. Specifically, the longitudinal and lateral gas channels are subject to intense heat produced by the burning of a pyrotechnic element contained within the strand. The intense, concentrated heat results in accelerated decomposition of the strand body along those channels, causing the strand to separate into fragments. Alternatively, fragmentation may also be provided by the softening, or melting, of certain structural elements of the strand, allowing the strand to undergo physical transformation during burning from a solid strand to indistinct globules of burning fuel, which may drip to ground and ignite surface fuels.